Status of power supply

†1038. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of power in the country, particularly in Haryana, is erratic, the power grids are defective and regular supply of coal is not made to the thermal power stations;

(b) whether the people have to face large scale shortage of power supply as a result thereof; and

(c) the effective steps Government proposes to take to regularize the supply of power, check continuous defects in the power grids and ensure regular supply of coal to thermal power stations?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) There is a continuing overall shortage of power in the country including Haryana. The quantum of shortage varies from State to State, on day to day and hour to hour basis depending on demand and supply of power. The energy and peak shortage in the country during the current year (April, 2007-January, 2008) was 9.0% and 15.2% respectively. The energy and peak shortage in Haryana during the current year was 11% and 2.7% respectively.

For ensuring proper supply of power, adequate transmission system under central sector has been provided/planned in Haryana. About 3065 MVA transformation capacity at 400 kV under central sector and 1400 MVA Bhakra Beas Management Board(BBMB) is operational in Haryana along with matching 400 kV transmission lines. A transformation capacity of about 3890 MVA at 400 kV has been approved and is likely to be available to the state within the next 3 to 4 years.

The supply of coal to thermal power stations in the country including those of Haryana is being made on a regular basis and no loss of generation due to shortage of coal has been reported by Haryana during 2007-08 (upto February, 2008).

(c) Electricity is a concurrent subject under the Constitution. The Supply and distribution of electricity in a State/UT is within the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utilities.

The steps taken/being taken to improve the supply of power in the country include augmentation of generating capacity by over 78,500 MW during the 11th Plan, development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW capacity each, improving performance of existing power stations, renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units, harnessing surplus captive power into the grid, strengthening inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity for optimum utilization of available power, promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures and import of power from Bhutan.

In order to ensure regular supply of coal to the thermal power stations (TPSs) the production, transportation and stocking of coal at all the major TPSs, is being rigorously monitored to review and resolve the constraints.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.